



DEPARTMENT OF  
TOXIC SUBSTANCES  
CONTROL

*The mission of the  
Department of Toxic  
Substances Control is  
to provide the  
highest level of safety,  
and to protect public  
health and the  
environment from  
toxic harm.*



State of California



Cal/EPA

## Ascon Landfill Site, Interim Removal Measure Activities Update

**Field work activities for the Interim Removal Measure (IRM) pass the mid way milestone. The IRM field work is being conducted safely and is anticipated to continue through the first quarter of 2011. This fact sheet provides update information on:**

- Field Activities
- Additional Work in Lagoon 3
- Haul Traffic
- Mitigation Measures
- Odor
- Air Quality
- Resident Hotline & Who to Contact for More Information
- Where To Find Project Documents

### Field Activities

As of early December about 58,000 tons of tarry materials and firming additive have been removed from Lagoons 1 and 2 at the Site, and transported to and disposed of at the designated disposal facility. Lagoons 1 and 2 are two interior lagoons located in the southwest interior of the Site. The material was deposited at the Site during the landfill's operation between 1938 and 1984.

In July 2010, DTSC approved an Addendum (Addendum No. 1) to the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Ascon Landfill Site Interim Removal Measure (IRM) to account for minor changes with the onsite work areas and the increased number of Southern Tarplants, a protected plant species whose growth on the Site grew significantly after the MND was finalized. In July 2010, DTSC filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) for Addendum No. 1 with the California State Clearinghouse. These actions are part of DTSC's continual oversight of the ongoing remedial work at the Site.

### Additional Work in Lagoon 3

DTSC approved an Addendum (Addendum No. 2) to the MND for the IRM in December 2010, to include removal of some materials in the waste pit referred to as Lagoon 3. Lagoon 3 is immediately north of Lagoon 2 in the center of the Site. This partial removal of Lagoon 3 materials was approved in order to increase the stability of the earthen berm between Lagoons 2 and 3 prior to the future final remedy and to better ensure the containment of Lagoon 3 materials during the period between completion of the IRM and implementation of the final remedy.



DTSC filed a NOD for Addendum No. 2 with the California State Clearinghouse in December 2010. Prior to this action, DTSC approved a Notice of Exemption (NOE) in November 2010, to allow the addition of Lime Kiln Material (LKM) to Lagoon 3 in order to increase the berm stability by reducing excess moisture caused by recent rains.

The volume of material anticipated to be removed from Lagoon 3 is about 8,500 cubic yards. The total volume to be removed during the Interim Removal Measure, including the portions from Lagoons 1, 2, and 3, still will not exceed the estimated 70,000 cubic yards evaluated in the MND for the project.

This action is a necessary step to ensure protective Site management prior to the final remedy. The Addendum and other associated documents are available for public review with the MND at the Information Repositories listed on page 3 of this Fact Sheet.

### **Haul Traffic**

Haul trucks enter the Site at the Hamilton Street Gate and exit the Site toward Pacific Coast Highway at the southeast Magnolia Avenue Gate. The number of haul trucks continues to be about 50 to 60 per day.

Work at the Ascon Site occurs Mondays through Saturdays. Haul truck trips are limited to entering and leaving the site between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Equipment or material deliveries may occur on Saturday. The majority of haul trucks depart the Site by 1:30 p.m. Haul truck trips are anticipated to continue in the first quarter of 2011.

### **Mitigation Measures**

Waste haul trucks are lined, loaded, covered, cleaned and visually inspected before leaving the Site. Street sweeping is conducted regularly. The entrance and exit areas are staffed with a flagman during truck hauling to ensure pedestrian and traffic safety.

### **Odor**

As previously communicated throughout the project planning and public review phase, the removal of waste materials would occasionally produce odors. Calls received into the 24-hour

resident hotline have been documented and followed-up on by Site personnel. Most hotline calls received have been odor related, particularly during the very hot days of August and September, 2010. In response, odor suppressants were increased and air monitoring data were further analyzed by DTSC to ensure emissions remained at safe levels. As required, but also as an added measure of protection, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has been present at the Site regularly to confirm that odor suppressant activities are conducted to help control odors.

DTSC and Site personnel recognize that odors have been an inconvenience to the surrounding community. While the odors are not a health risk, DTSC and Site personnel are working to reduce odors as much as possible. We are here by mission to improve Site conditions and we thank you for your patience and understanding while this important work is being conducted to remove hazardous waste from the Ascon Landfill Site. This interim work will provide valuable data for a final cleanup plan in the future.

The materials being excavated from Lagoons 1 and 2 have a “low odor threshold”, which means odors can at times be noticeable while not posing a health risk. The odors may be detected at low concentrations that are below levels required by the air quality standards established for this project. Again, odor may be more noticeable during hot weather and additional odor suppressants are applied to minimize these odors. Odor concerns may continue to be reported to the Resident Hotline.

### **Air Quality**

Air quality, odor, and dust are closely monitored during the work. Dust and odor suppressants are applied routinely. Air quality technicians with hand-held monitors take readings directly in the work areas and at air monitoring stations around the perimeter of the Ascon site, and have “stop work” authority if regulatory levels are exceeded.

The air quality data are analyzed by a State-certified outside laboratory and then transmitted to DTSC. These analytical data are posted for public review at [www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov).

DTSC and the SCAQMD are at the Site regularly to observe the work and inspect the onsite air monitoring logs.

The IRM project continues to be implemented in compliance with mitigation measures and conditions imposed by DTSC, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, SCAQMD, and the City of Huntington Beach. The current work also is providing additional information that can be utilized by the project team and regulatory agencies for the Site's future final cleanup action.

## **RESIDENT HOTLINE 714-388-1833**

### **We Respond to Resident Concerns**

The established 24-hour telephone hotline remains in effect during the IRM fieldwork, 714-388-1833. Residents are asked to call the hotline to expedite the response by the project team. Hotline calls are relayed by telephone and e-mail to the project team, and each response is reported to DTSC.

### **Who to Contact at DTSC for Information**

For more information about the Ascon Landfill site, please contact:

Safouh Sayed, Project Manager  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630-4732  
(714) 484-5478  
E-mail: [ssayed@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:ssayed@dtsc.ca.gov)

Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630-4732  
(714) 484-5354 or toll free 1-866-495-5651  
E-mail: [slear@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:slear@dtsc.ca.gov)

### **Where To Find Project Documents**

The mitigated Negative Declaration, Workplan and Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program documents for the IRM are available for public review at the following Information Repositories:

Huntington Beach Central Park Main Library  
7111 Talbert Avenue  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648-1232  
(714) 842-4481  
Mon – 1:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
Tues/Wed/Thurs – 9:00 am – 9:00 pm  
Fri/Sat – 9:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Sun – Closed

Banning Branch Library  
9281 Banning Avenue  
Huntington Beach, CA 92646-8302  
(714) 375-5005  
Mon – Tues – Closed  
Wed/Thurs – 10:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Fri – Sat – 9:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Sun – Closed

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630-4732  
(714) 484-5337  
Mon – Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM  
Please contact Ms. Julie Johnson at the number above to make an appointment.

*For more information about the Ascon Landfill site visit [www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov). For more information about our department, please visit our website at [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov).*

### **Notice to Hearing Impaired**

TDD users can contact the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 to reach Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354 or toll-free 1-866-495-5651.

### **For Media Inquiries**

Ms. Sandra Friedman  
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Department of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
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